

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 14, 15, 17 to 24, and 26 to 28 are pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Allowed Claims

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 14, 15, and 17 to 22 are allowed.

III. Rejection of Claims 23, 24, and 26 to 28 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 23, 24, and 26 to 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,684,742 ("White"). It is respectfully submitted that White does not anticipate the present claims for at least the following reasons.

Claim 23 recites that a cutting tool, for cutting freeform surfaces on a workpiece, includes a tool shank, and a tool head, wherein a radius of the tool head is greater than a radius of the tool shank and smaller than a smallest radius of curvature of the freeform surface.

As mentioned in the previous response, nowhere, does White disclose, or even suggest, that a radius of a tool head is **smaller than a smallest radius of curvature of a freeform surface**. White merely discusses radius of curvature with respect to the **tool** itself (*i.e.*, the silhouette of the tool), not a **freeform surface** (see, *e.g.*, col. 4, lines 47 to 60 of White). It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that White does not disclose, or even suggest, all of the features included in claim 23. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that White does not anticipate claim 23, or claims 24 and 26, which depend from claim 23.

Claim 27 recites that a method includes manufacturing a rotationally symmetric component by cutting a workpiece with a cutting tool, the cutting tool including a tool shank and a tool head, a radius of the tool head greater than a radius of the tool shank and smaller than a smallest radius of curvature of the freeform surface.

As mentioned above with respect to claim 23, White does not disclose, or even suggest, that a radius of the tool head is smaller than a smallest radius of curvature of a freeform surface. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that White does not disclose, or even suggest, all of the features included in claim 27. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that White does not anticipate claim 27, or claim 28, which depends from claim 27.

Further, with respect to claims 24 and 28, the Final Office Action's reference to an intended use is not -- and cannot be -- understood. In this regard, claim 24 recites that "the cutting tool is arranged as a five-axis cutting tool," and claim 28 recites that "the rotationally symmetric component includes one of (a) a disk-shaped component, (b) a ring-shaped component and (c) a rotor disk having integrated blading." It is entirely unclear what aspect of these claims is or might be considered a statement of intended use.

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 1, 2010

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